Date 12/17/13

Erik Vink Delta Protection Commission 2101 Stone Blvd., Suite 210 West Sacramento, CA 95691

Dear Mr. Vink:

On behalf of Discover the Delta Foundation (DTDF), I am writing to express support for the proposed Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta National Heritage Area (NHA), with the Delta Protection Commission (DPC) serving as the management entity.

The mission of DTDF is "Promote, protect and preserve the California Delta by providing objective and science-based information so that this very important resource can be better understood, enhanced, and enjoyed now and for the future." DTDF recognizes the NHA as a valuable means to increase public education of the Delta and awareness of the region's natural and cultural significance.

Our project, the Delta Discovery Center, will be located in the heart of the Delta, and will include a farmer's market and demonstration farm, science playground, Native American village, interpretive trails, and more. Many components of the Center have relevancy to the proposed NHA themes, as outlined in the *Feasibility Study for a Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta National Heritage Area*.

Also as outlined in the *Feasibility* Study, the vision for the proposed NHA is: "A regional network of partner sites with interpretive/educational components that will be linked where possible and serve as the primary attractions...". If NHA designation occurs, DTDF would be open to further discussion with the DPC about the partner site concept, as well as other components of NHA planning, management, and partnership opportunities.

Once again, DTDF expresses support for the Delta NHA and looks forward to further discussions with the DPC on this effort.

Ken Scheidegger, President

Discover the Delta Foundation

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